



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

the south of France, in Italy, in Spain and in Dalmatia; in Central Europe it has been recorded from Mont Cenis. It is therefore hardly to be expected in this country.

Had these specimens been taken in the south of Europe I should have named them *E. decipiens* without a moment's hesitation. They were crawling freely about in the dung, but though both sexes of typical *E. auricularia* were abundant, I failed to find a male of the wingless form.

The riddle is intensely interesting, and it cannot be cleared up without discovery of the male. I appeal therefore to entomologists to keep a sharp look out for what appears to be the common earwig without wings, for it would be most satisfactory to add a good and indigenous species to our British list, which is rather meagre in this respect.

Sibertswold, near Dover:

July 15th, 1907.

---

SOME NEW AFRICAN SIPHONAPTERA.

BY THE HON. N. C. ROTHSCHILD, M.A., F.L.S.

PLATE III.

The species here described were obtained by Baron Maurice de Rothschild on his expedition through Abyssinia and East Africa.

1. CTENOCEPHALUS ROSMAREUS, *sp. nov.* (figs. 1 and 2).

The head bears anteriorly at the genal edge one long curved spine and sometimes a second smaller one. The prothorax has a comb of 14 spines. The thoracic and abdominal tergites bear each one row of bristles. On the inside of the hind coxa there is an irregular row of from 7 to 9 short stout spines, the hind femur bearing on the same side a series of 6 to 8 bristles.

The genitalia of the male resemble those of *C. erinacei*. There is a large hairy flap, slightly curved downwards, and beneath it a short triangular process bearing bristles. There are no hairs above the stigma of the eighth abdominal tergite of the female, but the apical edge of this sclerite is densely hairy, there being also on the side a number of bristles.

Tchalenko, East Africa, off *Hyrax abyssinicus*.

LISTROPSYLLA, *gen. nov.*

Frons with a large spade-shaped tubercle. Eye small. Behind the same a bristle-like spine. No genal comb. The labial palpus consists of 4 segments. Pronotum with a comb containing more than 25 spines. Mesonotum with thin subapical spines. No apical spines on metanotum, but there are such spines on the first five abdominal tergites.

*Type: agrippinæ*, Rothschild (1902, described as a *Ceratophyllus*).

2. LISTROPSYLLA DOLOSUS, *sp. nov.*

Differs from *L. agrippinæ* as follows:—There are on the pronotum two rows of

bristles and a comb of 27 spines. The mesonotum is densely hairy from the base to the postmedian row of long bristles. There are three rows of bristles on the abdominal tergites, the first four tergites bearing also an apical comb of short spines. This comb consists of 22 spines on the first tergite, and of 2 on the fourth. The hind femur bears 4 bristles subventrally before the apex.

Kikuyu Escarpment, British East Africa; no host given.

### 3. CTENOPHTHALMUS ENGIS, *sp. nov.* (fig. 3).

The metathoracic epimerum bears 6 bristles. The first abdominal tergite has 3 rows of bristles, while the other tergites bear 2 rows. The most ventral bristle of the postmedian row is placed beneath the stigma. The seventh sternite is sinuate, the lobe situated above the sinus being obliquely excised. On the eighth tergite there are no hairs above the stigma, while there are 6 bristles at the apical edge and 5 or 6 near the ventral edge.

Closely allied to *C. triodontus*, Rothsch. (1907) and *C. ansorgei*, id. (1907), (figs. 4 and 5).

Addis Abeba and Bourka, Abyssinia, off a rat.

#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE III.

1. *Ctenoccephalus rosmarus*, head of ♀.
2. " " " " ninth tergite, ♂.
3. *Ctenophthalmus engis*, seventh sternite and eighth segment, ♀.
4. " " *triodontus*, seventh sternite, ♀.
5. " " *ansorgei*, seventh sternite, ♀.

Tring Park, Tring:

July, 1907.

#### A RARE BRITISH FUNGUS-MIDGE (*CEROPLATUS LINEATUS*, FABR.) RE-DISCOVERED IN LONDON.

BY E. E. AUSTEN.

This morning a male of the above species was taken by my boy-attendant, C. Hill, on the window of the *Diptera* Room here. *C. lineatus* is a large, dark-coloured species, with yellow, brown-striped thorax and conspicuously blotched wings; the specimen which is the subject of this note measures  $9\frac{1}{2}$  millimetres in length. In Mr. Verrall's "List of British Diptera," 2nd edition (1901), p. 10, *C. lineatus* appears in italics as requiring confirmation. On turning to Fabricius's original description of the species ("Systema Entomologiae," 1775, p. 754) I find the following sentence: "Habitat in Anglia: capt. in *Mus. Brit.*, d. 21 Jun." In Walker's "Insecta Britannica.—Diptera," vol. iii (1856), p. 67, the species (under the name *Platyura lineata*) is recorded as "Rare. In the British Museum"; and the Old Collection of British *Diptera* still contains half a dozen faded specimens of the species, all of which, however, like the rest of that collection, are without locality-labels. Con-